



STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tyco to End Glass Bulb Sprinkler Replacement Program
Claims must be submitted by Aug. 31, 2007 to avoid fees and penalties

DATE: May 15, 2007

Central Sprinkler Company, an affiliate of Tyco Fire Products LP, of Lansdale, Pa. has announced that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has approved their request to end the glass bulb sprinkler replacement program.

Tyco provided the following statement to the State Fire Marshal's Office.

"August 31, 2007 will be the last day for eligible claimants to submit a valid claim for participation in the Voluntary Replacement Program (VRP). Claimants are urged to submit their claim to Central Sprinkler by that date if they want to participate in the VRP.

Claimants who have submitted their claims prior to May 1, 2007, but whose claims remain incomplete because of missing information, forms or photographs, will receive notice of the deficiency from Central Sprinkler reminding them what is missing and informing them that the deficiency must be corrected before the August 31, 2007 deadline or their claim will be voided.

Claims submitted after May 1, 2007 and on or before the August 31, 2007 deadline, and whose submitted claim is incomplete, will receive notice of deficiency from Central Sprinkler informing them that they have until August 31, 2007, or 60 days from the date of the deficiency notice, to complete the information for their claim or else the claim will be voided. Central intends to afford all claimants at least 60 days to cure incomplete claims."

Based on our original estimate of the number of defective sprinklers that may be in Virginia, nearly 70 percent have been replaced. However, it is estimated that as many as 200,000 have still not been identified.

Although the voluntary replacement program is ending, the defective sprinklers remain a problem and are no longer approved; therefore, they remain in violation of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code. The State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) will require replacement of the sprinklers when found. Owners who fail to take part in the Central (Tyco) replacement program before it is discontinued will eventually be required to replace the sprinklers at their cost.

It is essential for owners to understand that this is a significant life safety issue that can be corrected at minimal costs to them if they participate in the program.

If any defective sprinklers are found, owners should immediately contact Central for replacement of the recalled sprinklers. Central may be reached at 1 (800) 871-3492 or on the Web at www.SprinklerReplacement.com. The sprinkler models recalled may also be reviewed at that site. Owners must complete the application process, but Tyco has assured us that they will help with that process.

The list of affected sprinklers is available on the SFMO Web page at:
http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/State_Fire_Marshal/default.htm.

If you have questions, please contact Ron Reynolds, SFMO Chief Engineer at: (804) 371-7170 or e-mail: ron.reynolds@dhcd.virginia.gov, or Ed Altizer at (804) 371-7154 or ed.altizer@dhcd.virginia.gov.

You may also check our Web page for a list of our regional offices and other sprinkler replacement information, or go directly to Central's replacement program Web site at <http://www.sprinklerreplacement.com> as indicated above.